

APPLICANT(S): KRAUSZ, Eliezer et al.
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AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Please add or amend the claims to read as follows, and cancel without prejudice or disclaimer to resubmission in a divisional or continuation application claims indicated as cancelled:

1. (Currently Amended) In a pipe clamp or coupling for [[pipes]] pipe repair or for sealing relationship by means of a metal clamping band to surround said pipes, and a flexible inner sleeve disposed inside said clamping band[[;]], the improvement ~~being the provision of comprising~~ a reinforcing material coaxial with said pipe clamp or coupling bonded to associated with said flexible inner sleeve ~~or embedded therein~~ to inhibit axial expansion ~~thereof of said inner sleeve~~ when said inner sleeve is under compression between said pipes and said clamping band.
2. (Original) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said textile reinforcing material is an aramide fiber.
3. (Original) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1 wherein said reinforcing material is embedded within said sleeve.
4. (Currently Amended) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1 wherein said reinforcing material is bonded ~~within~~ to said sleeve.
5. (Currently Amended) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flexible inner sleeve is provided with sealing lips on its inner face to contact said pipes.
6. (Original) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flexible inner sleeve carries an array of depressions over most of its inner face.
7. (Original) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 1, wherein said flexible inner sleeve comprises a flat mat having a first end and a second end, said first end being attached

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to said band and said second end being free to overlap the inner surface of said mat retained in a cylindrical configuration when disposed inside said band.

8. (Currently Amended) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 5, wherein said ends of said flexible inner sleeve are tapered in a peripheral direction,

9. (New) The pipe clamp or coupling as claimed in claim 5, wherein said sealing lips are flexible and integral to said flexible inner sleeve.